

Serial No. 10/677,759
60130-1900; 01MRA0330

REMARKS

Claims 1-12, 26, 27, 31 and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Number 2002/0074809 to Fisher in view of U.S. Patent Number 1,583,806 to Snyder. The Examiner states that Fisher discloses a door latch assembly, but does not disclose a resilient assembly. The Examiner contends that Snyder teaches a resilient assembly, and it would have been obvious to incorporate the resilient assembly of Snyder in the door latch assembly of Fisher to have the resilient member readily yieldable in a lengthwise direction both under pulling and end-thrust strains for reducing incidental shock. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

The claimed invention is not obvious. Neither reference discloses, suggests or teaches a first retainer having a first projection that projects only partially through a resilient member as claimed. Fisher does not disclose a resilient assembly. Snyder discloses rods 1 and 2 that extend through an entire length of a spring 5, as shown in Figure 1. The rods 1 and 2 fully surround the spring 5 to fit the spring 5 and to prevent the spring 5 from being removed. The rods 1 and 2 of Snyder do not project only partially through the spring 5 as claimed. Therefore, when the references are considered together, the claimed invention is not disclosed, suggested or taught.

Additionally, in the claimed invention, the first projection projects only partially through the resilient member, and therefore the resilient member can be more easily removed. In Snyder, the lug-like terminals 1b and 1c prevent the spring 5 from being removed without moving or damaging the terminals 1b and 1c. If the rods 1 and 2 projected only partially through the spring 5 in Snyder, there would be no terminals to retain the spring 5 in position. Therefore, it would not be possible for the rods 1 and 2 of Snyder to project only partially through the spring 5. The claimed invention is not obvious, and Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

Thus, claims 1-12, 26, 27 and 29-32 are in condition for allowance. No additional fees are seen to be required. If any additional fees are due, however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1482, in the name of Carlson, Gaskey & Olds, P.C., for any additional fees or credit the account for any overpayment. Therefore, favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,

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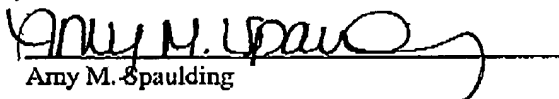


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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, 571-273-8300 on February 28, 2006.



Amy M. Spaulding